

Attorney Docket No. 112.P14007

Patent Application No. 09/916,271

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Please consider the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method of reading pixel signals from a multiple staggered sensor array comprising a plurality of rows of linearly staggered image sensors, the method, comprising:

determining a selected image resolution;

receiving pixel signals from each of the linearly staggered image sensors, a multiple staggered sensor which comprises at least two linear image sensors, wherein a photosensitive region of the one or more photocells of the image sensors of a first row of one said linear image sensor are offset abutting with a photosensitive region of the one or more of the image sensors of an adjacent row abutting said first row photocells of said adjacent linear image sensor; and,

creating an a lower image resolution image utilizing said pixel signals from one of said rows of said linearly staggered image sensorssaid one or more photocells of one said linear image sensor, without utilizing said pixel signals from an adjacent row of saidan adjacent row of said linearly staggered image sensors linearly staggered image sensorsother linearly staggered image sensors.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said image sensors~~photocells~~ comprise charge-coupled devices.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~photocells~~image sensors comprise a complementary metal oxide semiconductor device.

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4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said reading out operation is coordinated with at least a series of clock pulses.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising outputting said pixel signals from said consecutive ~~photocells of one said linear image sensors~~ into an analog/digital converter.

6. (Currently amended) A method of video signal output applicable to a multiple staggered sensor having at least two sensor rows, each sensor row comprising one or more photocells, the method comprising:

~~Providing at least two sensor rows in said multiple staggered sensor, each said sensor row comprising one or more photocells;~~

reading a scan line ~~with~~having one or more pixels ~~by~~with one of said sensor rows to generate a first consecutive video signal;

~~offsetting~~ reading said scan line ~~with said pixels by the another~~other of said sensor rows to generate a second consecutive video signal; and,

outputting said video signal output as a lower resolution signal, wherein said video signal output includes comprising either said one of said first consecutive video signal[[s]] or said second consecutive video signal[[s]].

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said one or more photocells of one said sensor row are offset ~~abutting with~~ from said one or more photocells of the other adjacent sensor row.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said one or more photocells comprise a plurality of charge-coupled devices.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said one or more photocells comprise a plurality of ~~sensors of complementary metal oxide semiconductor~~ devices.

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10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said video output further comprises the other of said first or second consecutive video signals.

11. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said video output is further introduced to an analog/digital converter.

12. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

receiving signals from a multiple staggered sensor portion, said multiple staggered sensor portion comprising at least two image sensors wherein one or more photocells of a first image sensor are offset and adjacent one or more photocells of a second image sensor, said sensors respectively providing consecutive video signals; and outputting an image comprising signals from one of said first image sensor or said second image sensor without using consecutive video signals from the other image sensor.

13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 12, further comprising outputting an image comprising signals from the other of said first image sensor or said second image sensor.

14. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein said photocells comprise metal at least one of ~~[[an]]~~ a metal oxide semiconductor, ~~and/or~~ a charge-coupled device.

15. (Currently amended) A system, comprising:

an image sensing portion comprising a multiple staggered sensor array ~~including~~ comprising at least two image sensors wherein one or more photocells of a first image sensor are offset and adjacent one or more photocells of a second image sensor; and,

a scanning circuit capable of receiving signals from said first and second image sensors, and capable of outputting ~~[[an]]~~ a lower resolution image based at least in part

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upon the received signals from either one of said first image sensor, or said second image sensor but without using the received signals of the other of the image sensors.

16. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 15, wherein said scanning circuit is further capable of outputting an image based at least in part upon the other of said at least two image sensors.

17. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 15, wherein said image sensing portion comprises at least one of a metal oxide semiconductor, and/or a charge-coupled device.

18. (Currently amended) A system, comprising:

a-means for receiving signals from a multiple staggered sensing means, the multiple staggered sensing means comprising a plurality of linear image sensors, wherein a plurality of photocells of one linear image sensor are offset and abutting~~abutting with~~ a plurality of photocells of a linear image sensor that is adjacent to the linear image sensor; and,

a-means for outputting an image comprising signals from one linear image sensor of the multiple staggered sensing means without utilizing another linear image sensor of the multiple staggered sensing means.

19. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 18, wherein the means for outputting an image is further for outputting an image based at least in part upon the other of said at least two image sensors.

20. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 18, wherein the means for receiving signals comprises at least one of a metal oxide semiconductor, and/or a charge-coupled device.

21. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

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creating a higher image resolution image utilizing said pixel signals from one of said plurality of rows of linearly staggered image sensors with said pixel signals from an adjacent row of said linearly staggered image sensors.

22. (New) A method of reading pixel signals from a multiple staggered sensor array comprising at least two rows of linearly staggered image sensors, the method comprising:
determining a selected resolution of an image;
if a first resolution is selected, reading pixel signals from each of a plurality of photocells of a first of the at least two rows of linearly staggered image sensors, and,
if a second resolution is selected, additionally reading pixel signals from each of a plurality of photocells of a second of the at least two rows of linearly staggered image sensors, wherein the second resolution is higher than the first.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the pixel signals from the photocells of the second row of linearly staggered image sensors are read after the pixel signal from a last photocell of the first row of linearly staggered image sensors are read.

24. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said image sensors comprise charge-coupled devices.

25. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said image sensors comprise a complementary metal oxide semiconductor device.

26. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said reading out operation is coordinated with at least a series of clock pulses.

27. (New) The method of claim 22, further comprising outputting said pixel signals from said consecutive image sensors into an analog/digital converter.

28. (New) An apparatus comprising:

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a multiple staggered sensor array including at least two rows of linearly staggered image sensors, said sensor array to read out pixel signals from the image sensors row by row;

wherein photocells of a first of the at least two rows of linearly staggered image sensors to be read for a low resolution image, and,

wherein photocells of a second of the at least two rows of linearly staggered image sensors to be read for a high resolution image.

29. (New) An apparatus comprising:

an image capture device, said image capture device including a multiple staggered sensor array comprising at least two rows of linearly staggered image sensors;

said sensor array to read out pixel signals from the image sensors row by row;

wherein photocells of a first of the at least two rows of linearly staggered image sensors to be read for a low resolution image.

30. (New) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein said image capture device comprises a scanner.

31. (New) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein photocells of a second of the at least two rows of linearly staggered image sensors to be read for a high resolution image.